FONAP- MEMBER PROJECT in Indonesia

27 members of FONAP e.V. are engaging in the new member project in Indonesia, the largest palm oil producing country. The pilot project, which will initially run for twelve months, is designed to help smallholders in oil palm cultivation to operate more sustainably.

Using various implementation strategies, the project pursues primarily ecological, but also social goals.

FROM SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL TO SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES: NEXT LEVEL FOR PRODUCTION, PROTECTION AND INCLUSION March 2022 until February 2023



Country/Region: Indonesia, Sumatra, **Jambi** Province

Funded by: Voluntary contributions of the members of FONAP e.V.



Implementing organizations: FORTASBI in cooperation with the Indonesian NGOs Setara-Jambi and CAPPA.



The project region in the Jambi province on the island of Sumatra borders the Bukit Tiga Puluh National Park, which is considered one of the last refuges for endangered species such as Sumatran orangutan, Sumatran tiger and Sumatran elephant. The project helps to preserve a buffer zone around the park and minimize disturbance impacts, including those from unsustainable oil palm cultivation.

In order to be effective in a larger, cohesive area, local government and administrative structures will be involved in the pilot project.







- 1. Sustainable landscape management through social forestry
- 2. Sustainable water management through the protection of the river and riparian strips
- 3. Sustainable oil palm cultivation through regenerative agriculture

Activities

- Identifying and mapping of local seeds with economic value
- Planting of 17 hectares forest area with native crops
- Establishing, operating and managing of two demonstration nurseries by local women's groups, as well as cultivating plant seedlings
- Establishing a river protection area up to 6 km in length
- Founding of a "River Watch Smallholder Community" as a forum for sharing and learning
- Planting of green buffer strips and natural riparian vegetation
- Regulation of fishing



- Knowledge transfer on the use of more sustainable cultivation methods, efficient and sustainable use of resources (e.g. use of organic fertilizers, preservation of biodiversity)
- Establishing demonstration plots on two hectares of oil palm plantation
- Implementing workshops

Objectives

- Restoring the natural state of the forest
- Creating additional income sources through the cultivation of coffee and candlenut trees and the sale of plant seedlings
- Awareness of smallholder farmers in the use of chemicals in riparian zones.
- Improvement of water quality and protection of local fish stocks
- Promoting chemical-free production by supporting demonstration plantations.
- Improved soil health and biodiversity on plantations.

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT



through...



About 6,115 hectares of forest in Tanjung Jabung Barat District are managed by local smallholders. Around 30% of this area has already been degraded by illegal logging, fires and the expansion of oil palm cultivation.

Empowering local people to take over the management and administration of the area themselves is one way to combat forest degradation and support the restoration of a healthy forest. As the first village on the shores of Pengabuan, the residents of Sungai Rotan have committed to protecting the river as part of the "Lubuk Larangan" program often practiced in the region: A community agreement regulates fishing in the river sections. After a certain period of time, the village community removes the recovered fish stock in a communal ritual as part of the "big harvest" before a rest period must be respected again.

Another four villages in the river basin have already followed the example of Sungai Rotan and joined the protection scheme. Through education and exchange, the FONAP project is encouraging five more villages to join the initiative, resulting in a total of 8-10 km of river length under protection.



The communities living in the project region maintain a close relationship with the river: People live along the banks of the Pengabuan, which provides them with both livelihood and water for their daily needs. Since 2000, the quality of the Pengabuan has increasingly deteriorated: Soil erosion due to riparian management pollutes the river water, cyanide and electrofishing disrupt the aquatic ecosystem.



Regenerative agriculture supports the restoration of soil health in order to reduce the release of climate-damaging gases such as carbon. One of the concepts applied as part of the project is the reduced usage of chemical fertilizers by independent smallholders who produce and use organic fertilizers instead. The mixed cultivation of crops also increases biodiversity on the plantations and provides habitats for wildlife.

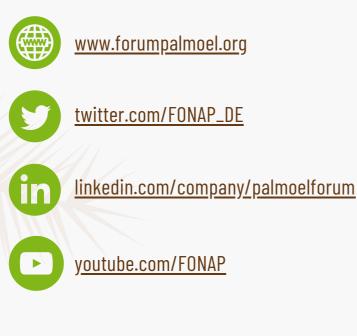


FORUM FOR SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL

The Forum for Sustainable Palm Oil (FONAP) is a multi-stakeholder partnership consisting of more than 50 German companies, associations, non-governmental organizations, the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

The aim of FONAP is to promote sustainable agricultural supply chains with a focus on palm oil. Since its founding in 2015, the association has been committed to more sustainable palm oil cultivation in the countries of origin. The aim is to increase the uptake of certified sustainable palm oil in food, feed and chemical products in Europe and to consider and apply human rights along the entire supply chain.

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Photos: Wahdi Septiawan/Yayasan Setara Jambi (1), FONAP/FORTASBI (2, 3, 4, 5)